Please amend the claims to read as follows:

(currently amended) A system including
one or more business entities defining a head of a
supply chain;

one or more sets of tiers of suppliers, wherein each said set of tiers is disposed in an extended supply chain;

a workstation coupled to said one or more business entities and said one or more sets of tiers of suppliers;

a database including information from said one or more sets of tiers of suppliers relating to two or more of the following: price, inventory, delivery schedules, backorders and supply interruptions, exceptional events, contracts, and past transactions;

a dictionary of translations that can be used to translate the content of transitive information in said information from said one or more sets of tiers of suppliers for cross-tier communication in said extended supply chain; and

an order collaboration system coupled to said workstation, whereby said one or more business entities can view updates to supply chain conditions for said plurality of said tiers.